

INSIDE TODAY WORLD NEWS EMBASSY CRISIS

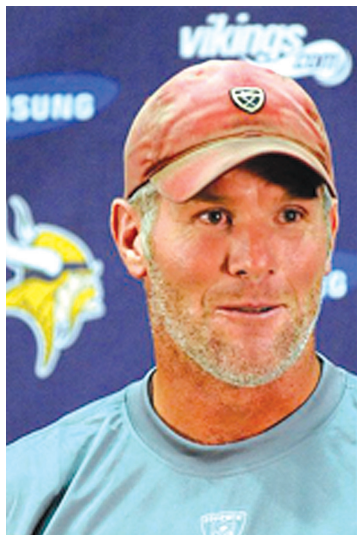


Palestinian Nadim Injaz is taken by ambulance from the Turkish embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, to be treated at a hospital, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. A Palestinian took hostages in the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv Tuesday after shots were fired outside, Israeli police and a Foreign Ministry official said, in an incident that appeared to have only an indirect link to recent tensions between the two countries.

Read more on Page A8


SPORTS NEWS

STAY TUNED



This Aug. 18, 2009, file photo shows Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre speaking during a news conference at the NFL football team's training facility, in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Read more on Page A13



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Jury deadlocks; one charge against Blago

DON BABWIN
MICHAEL TARM

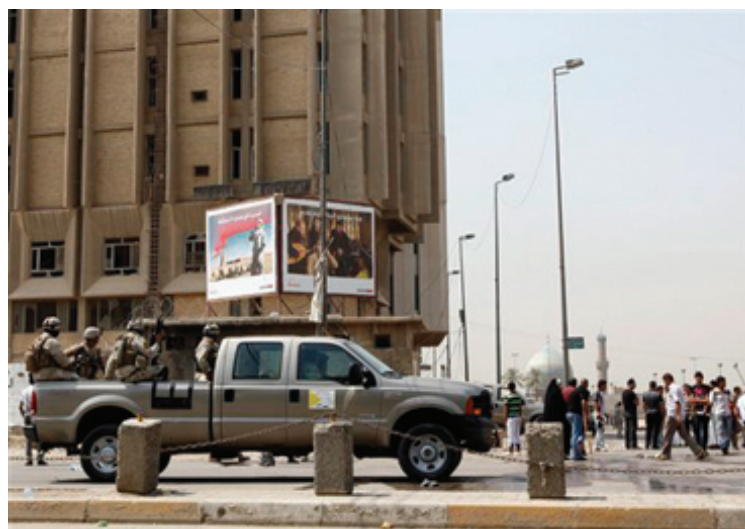
Associated Press Writers

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal jury deadlocked on all but one of 24 charges against former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, including the most explosive of all — that he tried to sell an appointment to President Barack Obama's old Senate seat. He was convicted Tuesday on a single count of lying to federal agents, one of the least serious charges and prosecutors pledged to retry the case as soon as possible.

"This jury shows you that the government threw everything but the kitchen sink at me," Blagojevich said later outside court. "They could not prove I did anything wrong — except for one nebulous charge from five years ago."

Blagojevich — known for his showmanlike, over-the-top personality — showed no emotion as the verdict was read.

Continued on Page 3



Iraqis gather as security forces secure the scene of a suicide attack in Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. A suicide bomber blew himself up among hundreds of army recruits who had gathered near a military headquarters killing and wounding dozens of them, one of the bloodiest bombings in months in the Iraqi capital.

Associated Press

Bomber kills 61 Iraqis in recruitment drive

LARA JAKES,
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — Young men from some of Iraq's poorest areas waited all night outside an army recruitment center, only to become easy prey Tuesday for a suicide bomber who killed 61 in the crowd. Desperate for jobs, dazed survivors rushed to get back in line after the attack.

Officials quickly blamed al-Qaida for the deadliest single act of violence in the capital in months. Police said 125 people were wounded.

Continued on Page 6



Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich and his wife Patti leave the Federal Court building, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, in Chicago. A federal jury found former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich guilty on Tuesday of one count of lying to federal agents, and the judge said he intended to declare a mistrial on the more serious remaining 23 counts.

Associated Press

U.S. interrogation videotapes found

ADAM GOLDMAN
MATT APUZZO

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA has videotapes, after all, of interrogations in a secret overseas prison of admitted 9/11 plotter Ramzi Binalshibh. Discovered in a box under a desk at the CIA, the tapes could reveal how foreign governments aided the United States in holding and interrogating suspects. And they could complicate U.S. efforts to prosecute Binalshibh, who has been described as one of the "key plot facilitators" in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Apparently the tapes do not show harsh treatment — unlike videos the agency destroyed of the questioning of other suspected terrorists.

Continued on Page 4



In this undated photo provided by global security research and analysis enterprise Flashpoint Partners, a man who Flashpoint has identified as confessed 9/11 architect Ramzi Binalshibh is shown. Binalshibh is being held pending trial at a U.S. military facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Associated Press



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Lawyers: Chess icon Fischer didn't father girl



Chess legend Bobby Fischer speaks to the press in his new home of Reykjavik, Iceland, in this Friday March 25, 2005 file photo. Fischer's remains are to be exhumed to determine whether he is the father of a 9-year-old girl, a lawyer representing the child and her mother said in Reykjavik, Iceland, Thursday June 17, 2010. Thordur Bogason said the country's Supreme Court made the decision earlier this week in order to allow for tests so his client, Jinky Young, to find out who her father is. Fischer, 64, died in Iceland in January 2008.

JENNIFER QUINN
Associated Press Writer
LONDON (AP) — DNA

Associated Press
tests have shown that chess
genius Bobby Fischer was not
the father of a 9-year-old girl

from the Philippines, bringing a paternity claim against his estate to a close, two lawyers familiar with the case said.

The test result was announced in Reykjavik District Court, lawyer Gudjon Olafur Jonsson, who represents Fischer's two American nephews in their own claim on his estate, said Tuesday.

Fischer's remains were exhumed in July so samples could be taken to determine if he had fathered Jinky Young, whose mother Marilyn said she had a relationship with the chess icon. Jinky, who lives in the Philippines with her mother, flew to Iceland last year to provide her own sample.

"I can confirm that the result of the DNA report excluded Bobby Fisher from being the father of Jinky Young, and

therefore the case has come to a close," said lawyer Thordur Bogason, who represents Jinky.

Though the paternity case has ended, the wrangling over Fischer's estate continues. He died aged 64 in Iceland in January 2008, leaving no will. Jonsson said the elimination of the paternity claim simplifies the case between Fischer's nephews and the woman who was his long-term partner. The case is scheduled to be heard in Reykjavik next month, Jonsson said, adding he hopes for a result by the end of the year.

Fischer was born in Chicago and raised in Brooklyn, New York. His 1972 defeat of Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union for the world chess championship—a tournament that was played in Reykjavik

— made him world-famous and an American hero.

But later, Fischer would become an erratic figure, losing his world title in 1975 after refusing to defend it and then dropping out of competitive chess.

He spent time in the Philippines and Hungary, and was arrested in Japan in 2004.

Fischer was threatened with extradition to the U.S. to face charges of breaking international sanctions against the former Yugoslavia by playing a chess match there in 1992.

Fischer renounced his American citizenship, and was then taken in by Iceland in 2005, a chess-loving nation, which gave him citizenship. Fischer is buried about 30 miles east of the capital, Reykjavik. □



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Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich kisses his wife Patti as they arrive at the Federal Court building, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, in Chicago. A lawyer for the brother of former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich says attorneys in the case have been summoned to the courtroom. Michael Ettinger, a lawyer for Robert Blagojevich, says he does not know the reason. It's the 14th day of deliberations.

Associated Press

DEADLOCKS

Continued from front Page

Before jurors came in, he sat with his hands folded, looking down and picking nervously at his fingernails.

He and his lawyer said they would appeal the conviction. The verdict came on the 14th day of deliberations, ending an 11-week trial during which a foul-mouthed Blagojevich was heard on secret FBI wiretap tapes saying the power to name a senator was "(expletive) golden" and that he wasn't going to give up "for (expletive) nothing."

The count on which Blagojevich was convicted included accusations he lied to federal agents when he said he did not track campaign contributions and kept a "firewall" between political campaigns and government work. It carries a sentence of up to five years in prison. Some of the more serious charges, such as racketeering, carried up to a 20-year penalty. Blagojevich vowed to appeal the single conviction and declared that he was a victim

of persecution by the federal government. He told reporters that he wants the "people of Illinois to know that I did not lie to the FBI."

It had been clear jurors were struggling with the case. Last week, they told Zagel they had reached a unanimous decision on just two counts and had not even considered 11 others. There was no immediate explanation about whether they later disagreed.

Jurors appeared more haggard Tuesday than during the trial. As they filed into the courtroom, many appeared nervous, some looking down at the floor as Zagel read the verdict form to himself, then passed it to a bailiff. They had asked earlier Tuesday for advice on filling out their verdict forms and a copy of the oath they took before deliberating.

The jurors did not remain at the courthouse to explain their decisions.

"They're going home," said Joel Daly, a spokesman for Zagel. "A lot would like to talk to media folks, but they

are plain tired."

After the verdict was read, defense attorney Sam Adam Jr. rubbed his own forehead and mouth, appearing to shake his head in disgust. The former governor's wife, Patti Blagojevich, leaned over in her chair, shaking her head. The former governor's brother and co-defendant, Robert Blagojevich, said the jury's conclusion showed he's been "an innocent target of the federal government" all along.

"I feel strong. I feel confident. I don't feel in any way deterred. I've done nothing wrong," he told reporters at the courthouse. "I've got ultimate confidence in my acquittal."

Defense attorneys had argued that Blagojevich was a big talker, but never committed a crime. They took a huge gamble by deciding not to call any witnesses — including Blagojevich, who had repeatedly promised to take the stand.

"The jury agreed that the government did not prove its case," the former governor said.

Throughout most of the trial, the 53-year-old Blagojevich, a perpetual campaigner and recent reality TV star, seemed cheerful. He often glided through the courthouse smiling and chatting with passers-by.

His demeanor was in contrast to his older brother, a Tennessee businessman, who was often subdued and walked to court alone.

U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald was in the main courtroom for the verdict for the first time since the trial began. He sat at the end of a spectator's bench near a wall on the opposite side of

the room from Blagojevich, his hands folded across court documents. He looked on blank-faced as the verdict was read. His team of young prosecutors reflected the same mood, also looking on impassively. As he left the courthouse, Blagojevich got a huge round of applause from the courthouse crowd.

Leota Johnson, 72, chanted

"Rod is free!" Johnson said she supports Blago because she isn't convinced he did anything wrong and that pay-for-play is Chicago politics as usual. During the trial, prosecutors relied heavily on the FBI wiretaps, in which Blagojevich spewed profanity, speculated about getting a Cabinet job in exchange for the Senate appointment. □

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U.S. weighs easing of Cuba travel restrictions



Fidel Castro, left, holds the arm of a bodyguard as he arrives with his brother Cuba's President Raul Castro, right, for a special session of parliament in Havana, Cuba, Saturday Aug. 7, 2010. Fidel Castro, who turns 84 on Aug. 13, is making near daily appearances in and around Havana after spending four years almost completely out of the public eye following emergency intestinal surgery that forced him to cede power to his younger brother Raul.

MATTHEW LEE

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration, in a test of the Castro regime's appetite for reform, is considering easing travel restrictions to Cuba, U.S. and congressional officials said Tuesday.

The move would leave intact the nearly 50-year-old embargo against the communist regime but would expand opportunities for American students, educators and researchers to visit Cuba, the

VIDEOTAPE

Continued from front Page

The two videotapes and one audiotape are believed to be the only existing recordings made within the clandestine prison system and could offer a revealing glimpse into a four-year global odyssey that ranged from Pakistan to Romania to Guantanamo Bay. The tapes depict Binalshibh's interrogation sessions in 2002 at a Moroccan-run facility the CIA used near Rabat, several current and former U.S. officials told The Associated Press. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the videos remain a closely guarded secret.

When the CIA destroyed its cache of 92 videos of two other al-Qaida operatives, Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Nashiri, being waterboarded in 2005, officials believed they had wiped away all of the agency's interrogation footage. But in 2007, a staff

officials said. The discussions to ease restrictions follow the release in July of the first batch of political prisoners Havana had pledged to free.

President Barack Obama has said that he wants to reach out to Cuba and promote democracy there by easing travel and financial restrictions. But he has also said there must be political or economic reforms before the U.S. takes further steps to ease Cuba's isolation. A decision could be announced before the end of next week.

member discovered a box tucked under a desk in the CIA's Counterterrorism Center and pulled out the Binalshibh tapes.

If the tapes surfaced at Binalshibh's trial, they could highlight Morocco's role in a counterterrorism program known as Greystone, which authorized the CIA to hold terrorists in secret prisons and shuttle them to other countries.

More significantly to the 38-year-old terror suspect's defense, the tapes also could provide evidence of Binalshibh's mental state within the first months of his capture.

In court documents, defense lawyers have been asking for medical records to see whether his years in CIA custody made him mentally unstable. He is being treated for schizophrenia with a potent cocktail of antipsychotic medications.

With military trial commissions

However, the officials cautioned that political considerations could hold up a decision, possibly until after November's midterm congressional elections. They spoke on condition of anonymity because internal deliberations continue on the scope and scale of the changes. Some in Congress have voiced opposition to a further easing in the restrictions, which Obama loosened last year to allow Cuban-Americans to visit and send money to relatives on the island. The new changes would extend some of those provisions to a broader group of Americans and could expand direct flights to Cuba, the officials said.

Details of the possible revisions were first reported by The Miami Herald. But speculation about them has run rife in Washington since Havana began releasing the political prisoners last month. The White House and State Department declined to comment Tuesday on specifics of the changes.

"The president is going to continue to do things that are in the best interest of the United States and that help to create a more democratic environment

and expand freedoms for the Cuban people," deputy White House spokesman Bill Burton told reporters.

Those comments were echoed almost word-for-word by State Department spokesman Mark Toner, who added: "We're looking at promoting measures that encourage the free flow of information and humanitarian items to the Cuban people." Toner noted that the Obama administration had contacts with Cuba on issues like immigration, postal service between the two countries, and the Gulf oil spill.

Speaking privately, two administration officials and a congressional source said support for the changes increased after Cuba began the release of political prisoners in July, which was brokered by the Roman Catholic church. Some supporters of easing the embargo say Raul Castro, who assumed power from his ailing brother Fidel in 2006, may be trying to find a way to reduce state control of society without losing control, much like the Chinese communist party in the 1980s.

But the Obama administration could find it difficult politically to broaden ties with Cuba. The

White House is still appealing to Cuba for the release of a U.S. government contractor who was detained last year.

Any effort to ease the embargo against Cuba would be fiercely opposed by Republicans and Democrats, both on Capitol Hill and across the U.S., who warn that it would weaken attempts to promote a fundamental change in Havana.

A growing number of lawmakers in both parties see Cuba as a lucrative market for U.S. farm exports, and support dropping at least some restrictions on trade.

Sen. Robert Menendez, a Democrat, has said that loosening restrictions would reward a repressive government that has shown little interest in reform.

"Promoting travel and widespread remittances will give the regime a much-needed infusion of dollars that will only allow the Castro brothers to extend their reign of oppression and human rights violations," Menendez said in an Aug. 6 statement.

Mendendez' comments came in response to a mention of possible changes published in a Washington Post column. □



In this undated photo provided by global security research and analysis enterprise Flashpoint Partners, a man who Flashpoint has identified as confessed 9/11 architect Ramzi Binalshibh is shown. Binalshibh is being held pending trial at a U.S. military facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Associated Press

public copy of the letter. At the time, the CIA played down the significance of the videos, saying they were not taken as part of the agency's detention program and did not show CIA interrogations. But that case can be made only because of the unusual nature of the Moroccan prison, which was largely financed by the

CIA but run by Moroccans, the former officials said. The CIA could move detainees in and out, and oversee the interrogations, but officially Morocco had control.

Moroccan government officials did not respond to queries seeking comment on Binalshibh and his time in Morocco. □

Gunman dies after firing at suburban Dallas police

SCHUYLER DIXON,
Associated Press Writer
McKINNEY, Texas (AP) — A man drove a pickup truck loaded with ammunition into a suburban Dallas police station's parking lot on Tuesday, set the truck on fire and exchanged gunfire with police before he was found dead at the scene, officials said.

Deputy Police Chief Scott Brewer said the man was shouting as the truck became engulfed in flames and the ammunition inside began exploding. The still-unidentified gunman then began shooting toward the police station and there was a "brief exchange of gunfire," he said.

The gunman was the only casualty, and Brewer said it wasn't immediately clear how he died.

Police didn't immediately

have a motive for the attack and didn't know whether the man planned the attack alone, he said.

"We believe there is just one shooter at this point in time," Brewer told reporters at McKinney City Hall. The police station sits amid a large cornfield near Collin College in the Dallas suburb of roughly 127,000 people.

Matt Payne told The Associated Press he was on his way to work his wife and 10-year-old son when they heard "this popping sound" while they waited at a red light near the police station. They drove in front of the station and saw the truck engulfed in flames before looking across the street and seeing a man in an open field in an olive-colored flak jacket and carrying what looked like a military-style rifle.

A campus police vehicle drove

around a building and the man turned his weapon toward the officer's car before gunfire broke out, Payne said.

"He was not hidden at all," Payne said. "It was obvious that he intended to go and hurt people and wasn't real concerned about whether he made it or not."

Ed Leathers, Collin College's police chief, said the gunman shot several times at a campus officer's patrol car. One of the bullets penetrated the back of the vehicle and would have struck the officer if it hadn't been stopped by a metal plate behind the back seat, part of the safety divider that separates officers from those in the back, he said.

"He came one inch from being killed possibly," Leathers said. "The bullet went straight for his back and lodged in that plate."

Leathers said the officer, a



Police investigate a shooting in north McKinney on Tuesday Aug. 17, 2010 in McKinney, Texas. A man drove a pickup truck loaded with ammunition into a suburban Dallas police station's parking lot Tuesday, set the truck on fire and exchanged gunfire with police, officials said. The gunman was the only casualty and died at the scene.

veteran of more than 20 years of police work, was on a routine patrol when he came across the gunman. He said there was a shotgun in the vehicle, but the officer never got a chance to use it.

Several other campus officers were then dispatched to the scene, but none discharged their weapons, he said.

Leathers said bullets from the shootout also penetrated a metal building on campus. School employees were in

the building, which is mainly used for records, but none were hurt, he said.

Leathers said the incident was the first time in the 10 years his department has existed that there has been shooting on or near the campus.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Tom Vinger said Texas Rangers, highway patrol and DPS aircraft were on the scene or headed to the area. Vinger could provide no further details. □

Sheriff: Mother killed kids, dumped car in river

MEG KINNARD
Associated Press Writer
ORANGEBURG, South Carolina (AP) — Investigators didn't buy it when a woman said her two young sons drowned after her car plunged into a river. She ultimately confessed to killing the toddlers, they say — not by dumping them in the water but by suffocating them earlier with her own hands.

Broke, jobless and berated by her mother for her failings, Shaquan Duley killed the boys, ages 2 years and 18 months, then strapped their bodies into their car seats before rolling the vehicle into the North Edisto River in a desperate cover-up attempt, authorities said Tuesday.

"She truly felt, 'If I don't have these toddlers, I can be free,'" Orangeburg County Sheriff Larry Williams said at a news conference.

"I think she was fed up with her mother telling her she couldn't take care of the children, or she wasn't taking care of the children, and just wanted to be free."



A car is lifted out of a Edisto River in Orangeburg, S.C. Monday, Aug 16, 2010. The bodies of two toddlers were recovered Monday from the car submerged in the river and their mother was charged with leaving the scene as authorities investigated whether it was an accident. Orangeburg County Sheriff Larry Williams said the boys, ages 1 and 2, were recovered from the North Edisto River after the car was found near a rural boat landing.

Coroner Samuella Marshall said Tuesday the older boy had bruises that suggested he had been in a struggle.

Monday's tragic scene of a car being pulled out of the water with children's bodies inside was eerily reminiscent of the 1994 case of another South Carolina mother, Susan Smith, who is serving life in prison for killing her young sons by rolling her car into a lake in the northwest part of

the state.

Duley, 29, was charged with murder Tuesday. Authorities were not sure if she had an attorney.

She lived with her sons, a 5-year-old daughter and her mother in a rented home along a street filled with boarded-up, abandoned houses in Orangeburg, about 35 miles (56 kilometers) south of Columbia, South Carolina's capital. □



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RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Continued from front Page

Bodies of bloodied young men, some still clutching job applications in their hands, were scattered on the ground outside the headquarters' gate. Soldiers collected bits of flesh and stray hands and legs as frantic Iraqis showed up to search for relatives.

The early morning bombing in central Baghdad starkly displayed Iraqi forces' failure to plug even the most obvious holes in their security two weeks before the formal end of the U.S. combat role in Iraq.

Army and police recruitment centers have been frequent targets for militants, underscoring the determination of the applicants to risk their

lives for work in a country with an unemployment rate estimated as high as 30 percent.

"I have to get this job at any cost in order to feed my family," said Ali Ahmed, 34, a father of two who returned to the bloody street after taking a friend to the hospital. "I have no option but to come back to the line. If there were other job opportunities, I would not be here in the first place."

Ali Ibrahim, 21, who suffered minor shrapnel wounds in the blast, returned to the line after his release from the hospital.

"I came back with my friend to try to get in. We are forced to come back for the sake of earning a living by securing the job," said Ibrahim, who had been waiting since 3 a.m.



An injured man is comforted by his mother at a hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. A suicide bomber blew himself up Tuesday among dozens of Iraqi army recruits who had gathered near a military headquarters in central Baghdad killing and wounding dozens of them.

Associated Press

Morocco protesters block trucks from Spain enclave

MADRID (AP) — Protesters in Morocco briefly blocked trucks Tuesday from entering a Spanish enclave in a simmering dispute over alleged police brutality by Spanish police against people entering the city.

An Associated Press reporter on the Moroccan side of the border with the Spanish city of Melilla said about 100 demonstrators staged the blockade, denying entry to trucks carrying construction materials.

The protest ended after about an hour, and trucks were allowed to move.

Activist Hassan Lemriji said Tuesday's action was a warning and that the blockade would resume Wednesday morning. Morning traffic usually involves trucks transporting fresh fruit, vegetables and fish.

Melilla is a city of about 70,000 people on Morocco's



A Moroccan activist stands next to a poster and a Moroccan national flag at the border cross from Bni Ensar, Morocco into Melilla, Spain, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. Moroccan activists announced a new commercial blockade into Melilla, restricting trucks from making food deliveries in a dispute over alleged police violence and racism against Moroccans entering the autonomous Spanish city on the North African coast.

Associated Press

northern coast and is claimed by Morocco.

Tuesday's demonstration was the second in less than a week.

The protest stemmed from

a string of incidents starting in July in which Morocco says Spanish border police beat up Moroccans entering Melilla. Spain denies any wrongdoing.

Yasir Ali, a 29-year-old recruit, washed blood off his body at a nearby police station and then went back to the line outside the Iraqi army's 11th Division headquarters and recruiting center.

The men waited in vain. The recruitment center was shut down after the attack, and the military said it would not reopen. Even so, some applicants remained there until mid-afternoon.

On the last of a nine-day recruitment drive, Iraqi officials provided only scant security for the estimated 1,000 men hoping to get hired, hundreds of whom had stayed outside the headquarters overnight for a first shot at handing in their job applications.

The recruits were from three poor Shiite neighborhoods in Baghdad and the impoverished Babil and Muthanna provinces in Iraq's Shiite-dominated south.

The suicide bomber sat patiently with them through dawn before launching his attack, Ali said.

Ali said he watched the bomber, whom he described as a young man, walk up to an Iraqi army officer and detonate

the nail-packed explosives strapped to his legs about 7:30 a.m.

"Severed hands and legs were falling over me," Ali said. "I was soaked with blood from the body parts and wounded and dead people falling over and beside me."

The body of the suicide bomber was found with his legs blown off, said Iraqi military spokesman Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi.

Two police officials put the death toll at 61 with 125 others wounded. Officials at four Baghdad hospitals confirmed the body count. All spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Al-Moussawi said there were 39 killed and 57 wounded. Varying casualty counts are common in the confusion after attacks.

Elsewhere in Baghdad, a bomb attached to a fuel truck detonated in the mostly Shiite neighborhood of Ur on Tuesday night, killing 10 people, wounding 46 and causing a nearby gas station to catch fire, according to police and hospital officials.

Lebanon grants Palestinian refugees right to work

ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY,
Associated Press Writer
BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon's Parliament passed a law Tuesday allowing the country's Palestinian refugees the right to work in the same professions as other foreigners, lifting a ban that has relegated the refugees to only the most menial jobs.

The bill was the most serious effort yet by Lebanon to transform its policies toward the 400,000 refugees, although Palestinian leaders in Lebanon and human rights workers say it is only a first step with significant stumbling blocks. The Palestinians living in Lebanon are isolated in their camps to a higher degree than in any other Arab country. Some 4.7 million Palestinian refugees — who fled or were driven from their homes during the 1948 and 1967 Israeli-Arab wars — and their descendants are scattered across the Middle East.

They live mostly in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, according to U.N. figures.

Their fate is one of the most emotionally charged issues in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. Palestinian negotiators have demanded at least partial repatriation, but Israel has refused, saying an influx of refugees would dilute its Jewish majority and threaten the existence of the state.

Unlike in neighboring Arab countries Syria and Jordan, where Palestinians enjoy more rights, the refugees in Lebanon live mostly on U.N. agencies' handouts and payments from the rival Palestinian factions. Those who do work are generally either employed by the U.N. agency UNRWA or as laborers at menial jobs such as construction.

On Tuesday, Parliament lifted restrictions that kept Palestinians almost entirely

out of the formal labor market, although even with the vote they are still subject to Lebanese labor law like other foreigners.

But the laws governing foreign workers in Lebanon pose a unique problem for Palestinians, who are stateless.

Lebanese law restricts some professions only to Lebanese, while other professions — such as law, medicine and engineering — require the employees to be members in a relevant syndicate. But most syndicates say foreign membership depends on reciprocity in their home country, which effectively bars Palestinians.

"If you're a Palestinian born and raised in Lebanon and your dream is to become a doctor, you're out of luck," said Nadim Houry, the Beirut director at Human Rights Watch.

Houry said Tuesday's vote



Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, right, speaks during a session at the Parliament building in Beirut, Lebanon, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. Lebanon's Parliament passed a law Tuesday allowing the country's 400,000 Palestinian refugees to work in any profession for the first time, lifting a ban that has kept the refugees in only the most menial jobs.

Associated Press

was a welcome step, but more needs to be done.

Beyond the legal restrictions on them, Palestinians also face deep prejudice from many Lebanese.

The bitterness dates back to 1970, when the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat moved his base here after being expelled

from Jordan in a bloody crackdown because his forces tried to form a government to rival Jordan's.

Many Lebanese have not forgiven Arafat's fighters for attacking Israel repeatedly from southern Lebanon, giving Israel a pretext to attack villages and twice invade. □

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Palestinian who attacked Turkish Embassy captured



An Israel border police officer holds his weapon as a paramedic rushes past the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. A Palestinian took hostages in the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv Tuesday after shots were fired outside, Israeli police and a Foreign Ministry official said, in an incident that appeared to have only an indirect link to recent tensions between the two countries.

Associated Press

AMI BENTOV
MARK LAVIE

Associated Press Writers

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — A Palestinian who broke into the Turkish Embassy in Israel trying to take hostages and demanding asylum was turned over to Israeli authorities late Tuesday, ending a tense standoff.

Seven hours after he forced his way into the embassy, the attacker was escorted out of the embassy and bundled into an Israeli ambulance. Wearing a light blue shirt and limping slightly from an apparent gunshot wound, he raised his arms briefly and shouted before Israeli police and paramedics subdued him.

An hour earlier, the Turkish government said it had the situation in hand.

“Our embassy guards neutralized the individual as he tried to take the vice consul as hostage after shouting around for asylum,” the Turkish statement said, adding he was armed with a knife, a gasoline can and a gun that turned out to be a toy.

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor identified the attacker as Nadim Injaz, a Palestinian from the West Bank town of Ramallah. Israeli police said Injaz was recently released from prison after serving time for an attack on the British Embassy four years ago, also to seek asylum.

Channel 2 TV played a recording of a phone call it said came from the attacker.

“I have two hostages,” he said in Hebrew. “I will blow up the

embassy. ... If they don’t let me leave this country now I will burn down the whole building. I will burn everything. I will burn the cars, the doors I will break down the doors. I will break everything.”

A lawyer who said he spoke to Injaz by phone told Israel Radio that the hostages, the consul and his wife, had escaped. Injaz said he admired Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

“I love him and I respect him,” he said. The Turkish leader “should give me political asylum against these murderers the Zionists, the murdering Jews,” he added, linking the incident indirectly to recent tensions between

Israel and Turkey.

He also condemned Palestinian leaders, saying President Mahmoud Abbas “should die” for stealing funds.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu told reporters, “there is nothing to worry about at the embassy, everything is under control.” He said the attacker was not seriously wounded.

Israel-Turkey relations have been strained over the May 31 Israeli attack on an international flotilla that was trying to bust Israel’s blockade of the Gaza Strip. The raid killed nine Turkish citizens who were among hundreds of pro-Palestinian activists

on board boats carrying aid and many Palestinians have expressed support for Turkey in the aftermath.

Turkey withdrew its ambassador from Tel Aviv after the flotilla attack.

The Israeli Maariv newspaper said the man called the paper, identifying himself as Injaz, the Palestinian who sought asylum at the British Embassy in Tel Aviv in 2006. He said he had a flammable liquid and threatened, “I will kill any Jew that enters.” In London, the British Foreign Office confirmed in a statement that the attacker was the same one involved in the 2006 British Embassy incident. □



Christopher Tappin is seen at a press conference in London, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010. The retired businessman is accused by the United States of exporting batteries to Iran for use in surface-to-air missiles, he faces an extradition hearing in two weeks time to decide if he must stand trial in the U.S. Tappin denies the allegations and believes he was unwittingly caught up in a US customs sting.

Associated Press

Briton will fight U.S. extradition over Iran sale

DAVID STRINGER

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — American authorities accuse him of plotting to sell missile components to Iran in a deal exposed in an undercover sting — but British retiree Christopher Tappin insisted Tuesday he is the innocent victim of entrapment by U.S. customs agents. Tappin, a smartly dressed 63-year-old, faces three charges in the United States over an alleged plan to sell specialized batteries for Hawk missiles to Tehran.

He says he will fight extradition, in the latest case to expose tensions in arrangements for transferring criminal suspects between Britain and the United States.

Two men alleged to have been Tappin’s accomplices already have been jailed in the U.S. over the plot, which customs officials say took place between December 2005 and January 2007.

Authorities claim Tappin used the alias “Ian Pullen” in contacts with undercover U.S. agents, who used a fake company to strike a \$25,000 deal with the Briton for him to buy five specialized batteries.

According to an indictment filed at the Texas Western District Court in February 2007, Tappin spoke with the customs agent at least five times in 2006 to arrange the deal. He then wired a \$25,000 payment into the fake company’s bank account to pay for the batteries, and sent a \$5,000 check to one of the undercover agents through an intermediary.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency alleges Tappin was then involved in arrangements to smuggle the equipment to Iran through Britain or the Netherlands.

Tappin told reporters at a news conference in London he had been duped by the customs agents, had no contacts with Iran and had stood to make only \$500 from his role in the deal.

“I deny these allegations,” Tappin said, visibly distressed as he offered his account.

“I was the victim of the unlawful conduct of U.S. agents who pretended to belong to a false company, known as Mercury Global Enterprises. It exists solely to ensnare unsuspecting importers.”

The retired shipping company director said he would fight attempts to extradite him to Texas, but would be prepared to answer the charges in a British court. Tappin said the allegations had left his family “nervous and unsure” about the future. “We just want to resolve this situation as soon as possible,” he said.

Ben Seifert, a spokesman for Tappin’s lawyer, Karen Todner, said their client was “of unblemished good character and has won industry awards for his achievements as a businessman.” □

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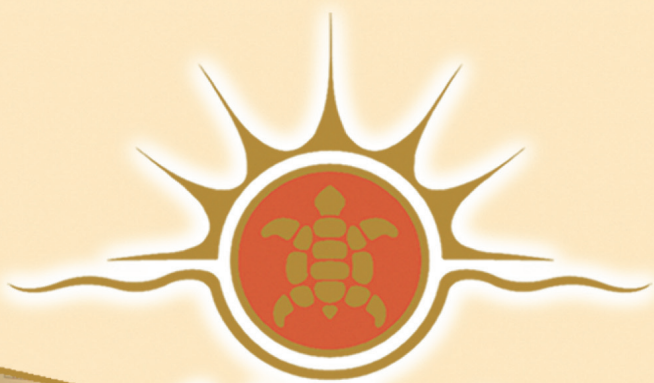
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Vietnam, U.S. hold first ever defense talks

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Former foes Vietnam and the United States held their first ever defense talks on Tuesday, which a senior U.S. official called extremely productive and successful.

“I was struck by the open and frank discussions that we were able to have even though this is the first time that this dialogue was held,” Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense

Robert Scher told a joint news conference with Vietnamese Vice Defense Minister Nguyen Chi Vinh.

The talks came as the two countries celebrate the 15th anniversary of their normalization of relations after being enemies in the Vietnam War. Last week, an American warship, the USS John S. McCain, docked in Vietnam and the two navies conducted

training exercises — a sign of growing military ties.

“This dialogue ... represents the next significant, historic step in our increasingly robust defense relationship which is based on mutual trust, understanding and respect for independence and sovereignty,” Scher said.

He said the two sides talked about how they could better cooperate in humanitarian



FILE - In this July 24, 2010 file photo, the U.S. Navy's Aegis destroyer USS John S. McCain (DDG-56), arrives for joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises at Donghae Harbor, South Korea. The McCain docked Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010 in central Vietnam where the former foes planned to conduct naval training in a sign of growing military ties amid new warnings from China for the U.S. to stay out of its backyard.

Associated Press

assistance and disaster relief, search and rescue, international peacekeeping and maritime security.

“I continued to be struck by the commonality of approach that our two countries share and the amount of cooperation that we have been able to achieve in a very short amount of time,” Scher said.

China has been uneasy with recent U.S. moves in the region, including military exercises with South Korea and the warming military relationship with Vietnam.

Vinh, however, said Vietnam's increased military ties with the U.S. would not harm others.

“We believe this cooperation brings about benefit to Vietnam and the United States,” he told the briefing. “This cooperation does not do harm to the interests of any other country.”

Vietnam views U.S. influence in the region as a counterweight to China, which claims disputed islands in the South China Sea. Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines also have staked claims on all or some of the territory, which straddles vital shipping lanes, important fishing grounds and is believed rich in oil and natural gas reserves. □

Train collides with truck in Germany, 15 injured

BERLIN (AP) — A Frankfurt to Paris train on Tuesday collided with a garbage truck in southwest Germany and two carriages derailed, leaving one man seriously injured and 14 other people slightly hurt, police said.

The InterCityExpress high-speed train carrying 320 passengers ran into the truck near Lambrecht, about 90 miles southwest of Frankfurt, after the truck slid down a wet slope and partially blocked the tracks, police said.

The 35-year-old driver of the garbage truck was seriously injured and flown to a hospital in nearby Oggersheim, police said. A British citizen and two employees of the national railway operator Deutsche Bahn were among those slightly injured, authorities



Passengers look out of a InterCityExpress train after an accident near Lambrecht, Germany Tuesday Aug. 17, 2010. Germany's national railway says a Frankfurt-Paris train collided with a garbage truck and two carriages derailed leaving one passenger seriously injured and other people slightly hurt. Federal police said the InterCityExpress high-speed train on Tuesday ran into the truck after it slid down a wet slope near Lambrecht, about 90 miles southwest of Frankfurt.

Associated Press

said. The passengers on the train also included U.S. and Chinese citizens. Deutsche Bahn said trains from Frankfurt

to Paris were being redirected via Strasbourg, France. Police said it would likely take at least a day to clear the tracks. □



FILE - In this Aug. 3, 2010 file photo, Bruce Willis, poses at the premiere of 'The Expendables,' in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Chris Pizzello, file)

Lawsuits over proposed Bruce Willis film dismissed

LOS ANGELES – Court records show dueling lawsuits between Bruce Willis and three film companies over a failed film project have been dismissed.

The companies sued Willis for \$4 million in March 2009, alleging he broke a contract to direct a film titled "Three Stories About Joan." Willis countersued for nearly \$9 million a few days later, claiming the companies failed to show they had the money for the project on time.

Court filings in Los Angeles show the cases were dismissed Monday. No additional details were provided, and attorneys for Willis and the companies, Foresight Unlimited, Signature Entertainment Group and Three Stories Productions, did not immediately return phone messages seeking comment.



Celebrity surgeon Frank Ryan killed in car crash

By SANDY COHEN,

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES – Celebrity plastic surgeon Dr. Frank Ryan, who made headlines for performing multiple surgeries on reality TV star Heidi Montag earlier this year, has died. He was 50 years old.

The California Highway Patrol says Ryan's 1995 Jeep Wrangler went off the side of Pacific Coast Highway near Malibu and landed on its roof Monday afternoon.

Besides Montag, Ryan's celebrity clientele included musician Vince Neil, actor Lorenzo Lamas, reality stars Lisa Gastineau and Adrienne Curry and several models and beauty queens.

Montag, who underwent 10 procedures in one day with Ryan, took to Twitter to share her reaction to his death.

"I am devastated," the 23-year-old wrote on the micro-

blogging site Tuesday. "He was the most amazing person I have ever known. He was an angel and changed my life and the lives of everyone he met. He was the most brilliant talented surgeon who will ever exist. Dr. Frank Ryan changed the world."

The Ventura County medical examiner's office said an autopsy would be performed Tuesday. He said no cause of death has been established.

Ryan's friend and client, model and reality star Janice Dickinson, was "deeply, deeply anguished" after hearing of the doctor's death, her publicist said.

"She is stunned and wants the world to know what a genius Dr. Ryan was," publicist Brad Taylor said Tuesday. "Her love goes out to his mother and the rest of the family."

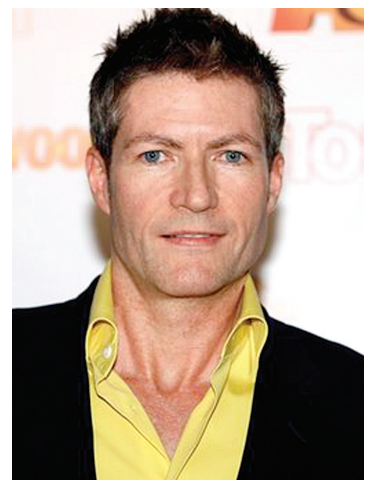
Curry said in a statement Tuesday that she and Ryan

shared "in-depth conversations about him wanting to start a family of his own, now that he had a very successful career." Ryan operated on her twice, she said, adding, "I considered him a friend."

According to his website, Ryan graduated from the University of Michigan in 1982 and from the Ohio State University College of Medicine four years later.

Ryan opened his private practice in 1994, the same year he established his namesake charitable foundation that provides free removal of gang-related tattoos and hosts day and overnight camps for children at Malibu's Bony Pony Ranch.

Ryan is survived by his mother, Mary Kate Ryan, and by many cousins, aunts and uncles, according to estate representative Melanie Sims Frank.



FILE - In this March 29, 2007 file photo, celebrity plastic surgeon Dr. Frank Ryan arrives at a launch party in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. Ryan died, Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, after his vehicle barreled down a cliff near Malibu. He was 50.

(AP Photo/Chris Polk, file)

His family is grieving and asks for privacy, she said, adding that a candlelight vigil will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Malibu's Zuma Beach.

Jennifer Aniston and Motherhood at "The Switch" Premiere

Jenny Peters

Los Angeles – Motherhood was on everyone's mind on Monday, Aug. 17, at the Arclight Theatre in Hollywood, where Jennifer Aniston introduced her latest romantic comedy "The Switch" to the world. The film is all about a single, 40-year-old woman who decides to use artificial insemination in order to have a child. Aniston was joined at



Jennifer Aniston arrives at the Film Premiere of "The Switch" in Los Angeles, Calif. on Monday, August 16, 2010.

the fete by her co-stars Jason Bateman, who escorted his wife Amanda Anka, Patrick Wilson and a blue-haired Juliette Lewis, along with the film's composer Alex Wurman and actor friends Jon Heder, Kathy Najimy, Ethan Suplee and Richard Portnow.

But all eyes were on Aniston, who looked slim and lovely in a strapless two-tone Lavin minidress, as she walked the

red carpet alone. Her solo status in real life is reflected in "The Switch," but she's not quite ready to follow her character into being a single mother.

But choice for women is an alternative that Aniston insists is a viable option in the 21st century, as she told reporters at an earlier press conference.

"The movie supports what's sort of currently happening in our world today, that we as women have the choices and options of when and how to have children. Family isn't necessarily the traditional mother, father, two children and a dog named Spot. It's like love is love, and family is what is around you and who's in your immediate sort of sphere," she said. "What I love about this movie is that it's saying it's not the traditional sort of stereotype of what family, as a society, we've been taught. It's evolved."

And as for the question about whether the ex-Mrs. Brad Pitt will ever have children of her own? Well, the 41-year-old superstar sticks by her past statements when it comes to that one.

Lawsuit over Nirvana catalog sale settled

LOS ANGELES – Court records show a management firm and Courtney Love have settled a \$1 million lawsuit over the profits of the sale of Nirvana's publishing catalog.

Love is the widow of former Nirvana singer Kurt Cobain. London & Co. sued Love two years ago, claiming she failed to share the earnings of a deal in which sold a portion of Nirvana's catalog for nearly \$20 million.

Court records show attorneys for London & Co. and Love told a judge last Wednesday that they had settled and the case was dismissed.

The Hole frontwoman has controlled many of the rights to Cobain and Nirvana's work since his suicide in Seattle in 1994.

Love's attorney, James Janowitz, confirmed the settlement but said he could not provide any further details.



FILE - In this June 1, 2010 file photo, Courtney Love attends Marina Abramovic's 'The Artist is Present' exhibition closing party hosted by Givenchy at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

(AP Photo/Charles Sykes, file)

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY



In this June 4, 2010 photo, a Toll Brothers transport trailer is seen at a home site for sale at Brier Creek Country Club in Raleigh, N.C. Construction of new homes edged up slightly in July but applications for building permits tumbled to the lowest point in 14 months, a sign of continued stress in housing.

(AP Photo/Gerry Broome)

Factories aid bumpy recovery, housing still weak

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
DANIEL WAGNER,
AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON—New government data offered a mixed picture of the economic recovery Tuesday, as U.S. manufacturing activity grew in July at the fastest pace in nearly a year while the outlook for the housing market remained dim.

Auto plants stayed open when they normally close for summer renovations and businesses replaced worn-out equipment. That helped boost factory output 1.1 percent — the biggest increase since August 2009.

Overall output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities rose 1.0 percent last month, the Federal Reserve reported. That followed a decline of 0.1 percent in June, the first drop in more than a year.

Construction of new homes and apartments rose 1.7 percent last month, the Commerce Department said. But the gains were driven by a 32.6 percent surge in apartment and condominium construction, a small fraction of the market.

Single-family home construction, which represented nearly 80 percent of the market, fell 4.2 percent. And requests for building permits, considered a good sign of future activity, slid 3.1 percent.

Separately, the Labor Department said wholesale prices rose last month on higher costs of food, cars and light trucks. Excluding volatile food and energy costs, so-called "core" producer prices rose 0.3 percent in July, the ninth straight increase. Core prices have risen 1.5 percent in the past year, a sign that inflation remains tame.

The recovery has weakened in recent months. Consumers are spending less and saving more. Businesses are hiring fewer workers. The unemployment rate for July was 9.5 percent and economists expect that to stay at that level for the rest of the year.

Investors appeared to be pleased with the latest economic data. All major stock indexes rose and the Dow Jones Industrial average jumped more than 170 points in afternoon trading.

Manufacturing has been the strongest sector since the recession ended, growing in 11 of the past 12 months. □

Stocks rise on earnings, economic reports

By STEPHEN BERNARD,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Investors regained some enthusiasm for stocks Tuesday, sending prices sharply higher after reports showed a slight improvement in the housing market and a big jump in industrial production. Investors were also encouraged by earnings from Home Depot Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. that were better than expected. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 103 points. All the major stock indexes were up more than 1 percent. Interest rates rose as investors moved out of the bond market and back into stocks.

It's too early to say whether stocks have recovered from a recent slump that sent the Dow falling almost 400 points over four days or whether Tuesday's advance was an upward blip. Many traders are on vacation or avoiding any stock moves because of the uncertainty of the economy. That means low trading volume and price moves that can easily be exaggerated. The Dow rose almost 180 points before falling back to its closing level.

But Tuesday's reports provided a slice of optimism and some reassurance that the economy continues to expand, although at a slower pace than early this year.

"The data and earnings should ease people's concerns about a double-dip" recession, said Peter Bible, a partner at EisnerAmper. "We're anemic; we're slow; we're crawling, but we're not going backward."

The Commerce Department said construction of new homes and apartments rose 1.7 percent in July, but applications for building permits fell by a higher than expected 3.1 percent. Building permit applications are considered a good gauge



In this Aug. 10, 2010 photograph, trader John Strazza works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks are set for a rebound as investors prepare for a handful of economic and earnings reports that are expected to show some modest improvement.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

of future activity.

Home sales have struggled to regain momentum after a home buyer tax credit expired at the end of April. So signs of stabilization in the market are considered somewhat positive after the sharp declines that followed after the expiration of the tax credit.

And industrial production jumped 1 percent in July, double the 0.5 percent growth forecast by economists. Rising output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities comes after multiple manufacturing reports had shown a pronounced slowdown over the past couple of months.

"That is fairly robust," Jeff Bagley, vice president and portfolio manager at Haverford Investments, said of the industrial production report. It's "another point of relief for investors."

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 103.84, or 1

percent, to 10,405.85. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 13.16, or 1.2 percent, to 1,092.54, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 27.57, or 1.3 percent, to 2,209.44.

About four stocks rose for one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange where volume came to a light 4.05 billion shares, up from 3.15 billion Monday. Investors also had some good news from the latest inflation reading. Prices at the wholesale level rose 0.2 percent last month, the Labor Department said, easing worries about deflation, a drop in prices that is a symptom of a sick economy. This was the first increase in producer prices since March and matched expectations of economists polled by Thomson Reuters. Excluding volatile food and energy costs, the index rose 0.3 percent in July, more than the 0.1 percent growth predicted by economists. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



This Oct. 3, 1951, file photo shows Bobby Thomson of the New York Giants hitting a home run, to win the national League pennant against the Brooklyn Dodgers, in the ninth inning of a baseball game at the Polo Grounds in New York. Famed home run hitter Bobby Thomson died Monday night, Aug. 16, 2010. He was 86.

Associated Press

Famed HR hitter Bobby Thomson dead at 86

BEN WALKER, AP Baseball Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Bobby Thomson, the man immortalized with his “Shot Heard ‘Round the World” in 1951, died Monday night at his home in Savannah. He was 86 and had been in failing health for several years, the Fox & Weeks funeral home said Tuesday. He was a good player, not a Hall of Famer. Yet on that October afternoon, with one swing, Thomson transformed a pennant race for one season into a baseball moment for the ages. He hit perhaps the sport’s most famous home run, connecting off Ralph Branca for a three-run drive in the bottom of the ninth inning that sent the New York Giants over the Brooklyn Dodgers in the decisive Game 3 of their National League playoff.

Continued on Page 14

Bryce Harper, Nationals agree to \$9.9M deal



This June 7, 2010, file photo shows Bryce Harper during an interview in Newport Beach, Calif. The Washington Nationals and No. 1 overall draft pick Bryce Harper are facing a deadline to get a deal done. Major League Baseball clubs have until midnight as Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, turns to Tuesday to agree on contracts with players picked in June’s amateur draft.

Associated Press

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Just like last year, the Washington Nationals and agent Scott Boras agreed to a contract for baseball’s top draft pick with just a few seconds to spare.

Bryce Harper and the Washington Nationals settled on a \$9.9 million, five-year contract just before Monday’s midnight deadline, one of 14 first-round selections to sign on the final day.

Three first-round picks failed to sign, and the teams that chose them will get extra selections as compensation in the first round of next year’s draft.

Harper, a 17-year-old power-hitting catcher from College of Southern Nevada, was the first JUCO player taken with the top overall pick.

He gets a \$6.25 million signing bonus in five equal payments of \$1.25 million: 30 days after approval and each July 1 from

Cincinnati Masters

Berdych to meet Baghdatis in Round of 16



MASON, Ohio (AP) — Wimbledon finalist Tomas Berdych cruised to a 6-4, 6-4 win over Paul-Henri Mathieu on Tuesday to become the first player to reach the round of 16 at the \$2.4 million Western & Southern Financial Group Masters. The seventh-seeded Richard Gasquet, from France, returns a volley to Mikhail Youzhny, from Russia, in a match at the Cincinnati Masters tennis tournament, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, in Mason, Ohio.

Associated Press

2011 through 2014.

Harper receives salaries of \$500,000 each in 2011 and 2012, \$750,000 in 2013, \$900,000 in 2014 and \$1 million in 2015. He can earn \$500,000 more a year in bonuses for time on the active major league roster in each of the final two seasons.

“Suffice it to say, both sides gave up ground at the last second to get the deal done,” Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo said.

Harper’s deal is a record for a non-pitcher signed out of the draft who had not become a free agent.

Current New York Yankees first baseman Mark Teixeira set the previous record for a major league deal for a position player, getting a \$9.5 million, four-year deal from the Texas Rangers in 2001 in another Boras deal.

“Essentially, it was discussion of a lot of variables because of the power of the player, the age of the player, what position players have been historically paid in the draft,” Boras said in a telephone interview.

“With a player of this level of skill and talent,” he added, “there’s not really any comparables.”

Harper hit .443 with 31 homers and 98 RBIs in his first season at the College of Southern Nevada, which plays in a league that uses wood bats. He skipped his final two years of high school and became eligible for the 2010 amateur draft.

Two first-round picks received \$3.2 million, four-year contracts: catcher Yasmani Grandal with Cincinnati and third baseman Zack Cox with St. Louis. Other first-round picks got minor league deals.

Right-hander Jameson Taillon, the No. 2 pick, got a \$6.5 million bonus from Pittsburgh. Shortstop Manny Machado, the No. 3 selection, received a \$5.25 million bonus from Baltimore.

Left-hander Drew Pomeranz, the No. 5 pick, agreed with Cleveland at \$2.65 million. The Mets agreed with right-hander Matt Harvey, the No. 7 selection, at \$2,525,000.

Outfielder Gary Brown, picked 24th, agreed with San Francisco at \$1.45 million. Machado, Harvey and Brown also were represented by Boras. Last year, Boras and the Nationals agreed to a \$15.1 million, four-year deal for top pick Stephen Strasburg.

Berdych, who lost to Roger Federer in the semifinals at Toronto last week, will next face 20th-ranked Marcos Baghdatis, who was pushed by No. 25 Thomaz Bellucci to three sets and a tiebreaker before prevailing 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (4). Three of the seeded players went out in first-round matches Tuesday. No. 12 Mikhail Youzhny fell to 41st-ranked Frenchman Richard Gasquet 2-6, 6-4, 6-1. No. 15 Ivan Ljubicic lost 7-5, 6-0 to the resurgent

David Nalbandian, and No. 16 Gael Monfils was eliminated by 67th-ranked Colombian Alejandro Falla 6-3, 6-4. In other first-round results, Mardy Fish took out Gilles Simon 7-6 (4), 7-5. Denis Istomin had a convincing 6-3, 6-4 win over James Blake, who has slumped from the Top 10 to a No. 107 ranking, and former U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion Lleyton Hewitt advanced after Lu Yen-hsun retired while trailing by a set and two breaks.

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Favre is back in Minnesota

EDEN PRAIRIE (AP) — Brett Favre is back in Minnesota, stirring hope among Vikings fans that he may be ready to play this season.

A private jet trimmed in the Vikings' purple and gold carrying the 40-year-old quarterback landed at an airport outside Minneapolis on Tuesday afternoon. Favre was then whisked to Viking headquarters, and disappeared into the building.

Favre's website posted a message earlier saying "stay tuned for breaking news from the Minnesota Vikings today on Brett Favre's possible return." There's still no official word from the team.

Favre will turn 41 in October and has flirted with retirement for years while playing for the Green Bay Packers, the New York Jets and now the Vikings. He threw 33 touchdowns and seven interceptions last season to help Minnesota reach the NFC title game.

The three-time MVP has been thinking about retirement again this year after injuring his ankle in the NFC championship loss to New Orleans in January. He had surgery on his left ankle in June, and told teammates and some

team officials earlier in August that it wasn't sufficiently healed enough for him to return for a 20th NFL season.

Yet no one in the organization has fully bought into that — partly because they went through a similar ordeal in 2009.

Last year, Favre told the team on the eve of training camp that he was going to stay retired only to return the Tuesday after their first preseason game.

Favre visited Dr. James Andrews in Florida last week to get a checkup on his ankle and the Vikings reportedly sent three of his closest friends on the team to Mississippi to woo him one final time.

Favre proved last year that he didn't need all that extra sweating in training camp, delivering one of his finest seasons to lead the Vikings to the brink of the Super Bowl.

He took a beating at the Superdome, yet still threw for 310 yards and a touchdown. But he also threw two interceptions, the last one in Saints territory at the end of regulation that cost the team a chance a game-winning field goal try. □



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre waves to the media and football fans after arriving by a private jet at Flying Cloud Airport, Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010 in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Associated Press



Tyson Gay of the USA tests a time measurement device during a press conference ahead of Thursday's IAAF Diamond League Meeting "Weltklasse Zuerich", in Zurich's main station on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010.

GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

ZURICH (AP) — Tyson Gay

believes he can run the second fastest time in history on his final scheduled 100-meter

Associated Press

Gay aims to beat his 9.69 best in Brussels

race of the season in Brussels next week.

Gay said Tuesday that his 9.78 seconds into a headwind on a wet track in London last Friday gave him confidence that he can beat his personal record of 9.69 set in Shanghai last September.

"I think I have a lot left in the tank," said Gay, targeting the Aug. 27 meet in Brussels, which stages the Diamond League final in the 100. "I know the track's extremely fast. I'm going to give it my best and hopefully I'll PR."

Only Usain Bolt has beaten Gay's best — clocking 9.58 at the 2009 world championships in Berlin when the American got silver in 9.71. Bolt ended his season last week to protect

a back injury after being beaten over 100 for the first time by Gay, at Stockholm's Diamond League meet.

The 28-year-old Gay agreed that the London run — the world's fastest in 2010 — was the most satisfying of his career even though it was only his fifth fastest. He said he was slowed because of the technical challenges of delivering a fast start and maintaining his form in such poor weather.

"I think so, in those conditions. My start was on point and normally that's the worst part of my race," Gay said. "My time in London was a lot more impressive than Shanghai, (which) was not technically good."

Gay said he had more energy

for fast times this season because the 2010 schedule had no major event.

"I'm not as drained as I was last year. It took that extra step to keep running after the world championships," he said.

Gay spoke in Zurich ahead of Thursday's Weltklasse meeting, which stages the first half of the season-ending Diamond League finals program. He will run the 4x100 relay for a United States team and skip the 200 because of a slight left knee injury that hurts coming out of the blocks on the bend.

The second-fastest man ever shared a news conference Tuesday with the first man in track history to run 10.0.

Continued on Next Page

GAY

Continued from Previous Page

Now 73, Armin Hary is being celebrated at the Weltklasse 50 years after he set the iconic mark at the Swiss meet, running on a cinder track and hand-timed by stopwatch.

Gay described the German — the last European to set a world record in the 100 dash — as a legend of the sport.

“So much history comes with this man,” Gay said. “He was a huge star, like a rock star, and to compare him to the guys like Usain Bolt is amazing.”

Hary’s record run was even more impressive, Gay said, because it came 35 minutes after another 10.0 was annulled for a false start.

“I would not be able to run twice in one day like that,” Gay said.

Hary, famed for his fast starts, recalled Tuesday that journalists covering the race told him he had to run again.

“I was young so I didn’t mind,” said Hary, who three months later became Olympic champion in Rome. “An Olympic medal is for ever. If you get a world record, someone else can take it.”

Hary’s elite career was ended by a car accident in 1961, and it took another seven years for his world record to be bettered.

Jim Hines of the U.S. broke the 10-second barrier with a hand-timed 9.9 in June 1968. He then set the first electronically timed record of 9.95 in the Olympic final at Mexico City. □



This April 13, 1997, file photo shows former major league baseball player Bobby Thomson during a salute to Jackie Robinson, in Union, N.J. Famed home run hitter Bobby Thomson died Monday night, Aug. 16, 2010. He was 86.

Associated Press

THOMSON

Continued from Page 12

The frenzied commentary echoes through baseball lore.

“The Giants win the pennant! The Giants win the pennant!”

The drive into the left-field stands at the Polo Grounds and broadcaster Russ Hodges’ ecstatic declaration — four times shouting “the Giants win the pennant!” — remain one of the signature moments in major league history.

“I never thought it was going to be that big. Hell, no,” Branca told The Associated Press from his home in suburban New York. “When we went into the next season, I thought it’d be forgotten.”

“I’ll miss him,” Branca said. “I mellowed over the years and we became good friends. I enjoyed being around him.”

A three-time All-Star as an infielder and outfielder,

Thomson hit .270 with 264 career home runs and 1,026 RBIs from 1946-60 with several teams. He led the league in a hitting category only once, and that was for triples.

But the fly ball that flew over the wall vaulted “The Flying Scot” to a place of almost mythic status. There have been plenty of historic home runs over the years — Bill Mazeroski, Kirk Gibson, Carlton Fisk and Joe Carter, to name a few — but Thomson’s shot stands as the giant among them all.

The tall, lanky and self-effacing Thomson, however, was stunned that in a lineup that included future Hall of Famers Willie Mays and Monte Irvin, he would hit the pennant-winning homer. He called himself “the accidental hero.”

Thomson never quite understood all the fuss the homer created. On its 40th anniversary in 1991, he said, “I can’t believe we’re still talking about it.”

“Bobby Thomson will always hold a special place in our game for hitting one of the signature home runs in baseball history. ‘The Shot Heard ‘Round the World’ will always remain a defining moment for our game, illustrating the timeless quality of the national pastime,” commissioner Bud Selig said.

The home run decided one of the most memorable pennant races, and later led to one of its most-debated questions: Did he know Branca was

going to throw the high-and-inside fastball that Thomson hit out of the park? □

More than a half-century later, it was revealed the Giants during the season had used a buzzer-and-telescope system to steal signals from opposing catchers. Helped by the inside information, the Giants overcame a 13½-game deficit to the Dodgers, won 37 of their final 44 games and forced a playoff.

Thomson always insisted he did not know what pitch was coming when he connected. Branca was never quite so sure.

For years, Thomson and Branca appeared together at functions of all kinds, a modern-day Abbott & Costello act, their retelling of the moment filled with fine-tuned comic touches and playful jabs.

Often, Branca would prompt Thomson to claim more of the credit.

Only one thing was missing from their act: the home run ball itself. The prize remains an elusive souvenir, with several people claiming to have it but no one able to prove.

“We did award shows, dinners, autograph shows, golf outings, maybe five or six a year,” Branca said.

Thomson moved south about five years ago to be closer to one of his daughters. Branca said he hadn’t seen him for a couple of years.

Long after the Giants and Dodgers left town and moved west, Thomson remained a recognized figure on New York streets. Taxi drivers, office workers and pedestrians of a certain age would stop him or call out his name — the old Giants fans cheered, the Dodgers crowd, not so much. Thomson hit a career-high 32 home runs in 1951, and his shot on Oct. 3 sent the Giants into the World Series the next day. He hit a mere .238 without a home run as his team lost in six games to the crosstown New York Yankees, who were in the midst of winning a record five straight crowns. The luster from Thomson’s shot, though, never dimmed. There was even a funny postscript, provided by the great Yogi Berra. □

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AL Roundup

Blue Jays' Marcum throws one-hitter against Athletics

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Shaun Marcum pitched a one-hitter, allowing only a home run to Conor Jackson leading off the seventh inning, while Jose Bautista hit his majors-best 37th home run to lift the Toronto Blue Jays to a 3-1 win over Oakland Athletics on Monday night. The A's were held hitless late for the second straight day. Minnesota's Kevin Slowey didn't allow a hit through seven innings Sunday before being pulled. Oakland got its first hit with one out in the eighth against Jon Rauch.

Marcum (11-6) missed most of last season after undergoing surgery on Sept. 30, 2008. He faced only two batters over the minimum before Jackson's home run, then finished for his first career complete game.

Rays 6, Rangers 4

At St. Petersburg, Carlos Pena hit a tiebreaking single during a four-run eighth inning as Tampa Bay rallied to beat Texas and move into a share of first-place with the Yankees in the AL East.

Lee outlasted David Price in a marquee matchup of All-Star aces and was given a late lead when Texas scored twice in the top of the eighth to go up 4-2. But Carl Crawford hit a run-scoring grounder and

Evan Longoria tied it with a single before Pena, just off the disabled list, made it 5-4.

Ben Zobrist added an RBI single that chased Lee (10-6). The left-hander allowed six runs, nine hits and one walk while striking out 10 over 7 2-3 innings. He has lost all three of his starts against Tampa Bay this season.

Price got a no-decision in his bid to become the AL's first 16-game winner, giving up two runs and five hits in six-plus innings. The hard-throwing lefty struck out eight and walked five.

Lance Cormier (4-3) got the final out in the eighth before Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth for his 34th save.

Tigers 3, Yankees 1

At New York, Detroit's Max Scherzer pitched two-hit ball for six shutout innings and shaky closer Jose Valverde got Derek Jeter to ground into a game-ending double play with the bases loaded.

The Tigers took a 3-0 lead into the ninth. The Yankees were close to being shut out in consecutive games for the first time since 1999.

Valverde held on for his 23rd consecutive save.

The highest-scoring team in the majors managed only six hits overall against Scherzer

(8-9) and three relievers.

Not since May 1999, when the Anaheim Angels stopped them, have the Yankees been blanked in consecutive games.

Ryan Raburn hit a two-run homer in the second off Javier Vazquez (9-9). Miguel Cabrera hit his 28th home run in the ninth off Joba Chamberlain.

Orioles 5, Mariners 4, 11 innings

At Baltimore, Nick Markakis led off the 11th inning with a double and scored on a two-out bunt by Adam Jones as the Orioles narrowly won.

Markakis doubled off Sean White (0-1) and advanced on a groundout. After another



Toronto Blue Jays' Shaun Marcum works against the Oakland Athletics during the first inning of a baseball game Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

groundout against a drawn-in infield, Jones dropped a bunt down the third-base line that Jose Lopez failed to snare with his bare hand as Markakis sprinted home.

Matt Albers (5-3) worked the 11th to get the win.

It was the 21st time this

season that Seattle lost on its opponent's final at-bat, the 10th in walkoff fashion.

In other AL games it was Detroit 3, N.Y. Yankees 1; Baltimore 5, Seattle 4, 11 innings; Tampa Bay 6, Texas 4; and Toronto 3, Oakland 1. □

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NL Roundup

Braves score 3 in 9th, beat Dodgers 4-3

ATLANTA (AP) — Melky Cabrera's two-run single off Octavio Dotel with the bases loaded in the ninth inning capped a three-run rally that lifted Atlanta to a 4-3 victory over Los Angeles on Monday night.

Dotel took over for Hong-Chih Kuo (3-2), who failed to protect a 3-1 lead. Kuo gave up two singles and a walk to load the bases.

Dotel walked pinch-hitter David Ross to force in a run. Cabrera then lined the game-winning single past shortstop Jamey Carroll.

The first-place Braves moved 2½ games ahead of Philadelphia in the NL East. Peter Moylan (4-2) pitched a perfect ninth for Atlanta.

Los Angeles starter Chad Billingsley gave up five hits and one run in seven innings. Atlanta's Tommy Hanson gave up five hits and a run in seven innings.

Mets 3, Astros 1

At Houston, Carlos Beltran homered in the 4th and New York took the lead in the ninth inning on a wild pitch by Houston closer Matt Lindstrom.

Hisanori Takahashi worked a perfect ninth for his first save, filling in as closer on the day the Mets learned Francisco Rodriguez will miss the rest of the season. The four-time All-Star needs season-ending surgery on a torn thumb ligament in his pitching hand sustained during a fight with his girlfriend's father at Citi Field last week.

Lindstrom (2-4) allowed a single to David Wright with one out in the ninth before a single by Beltran put runners at the corners. With Jeff Francoeur batting, Lindstrom's pitch in the dirt got away from rookie catcher



Cabrera's game-winning single in the ninth inning of a baseball game Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, in Atlanta. The Braves won 4-3.

Associated Press

Williams sees no split with Woods

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — New Zealander Steve Williams doesn't believe his job as Tiger Woods' caddie is under any threat, despite media speculation about their 11-year association and concern over the champion golfer's form.

Williams told New Zealand radio Wednesday that he and Woods remain close friends and there is no possibility their working relationship is about to end.

"I'm sure if there was going to be some sort of parting of the ways, I'd be the first to know," he said. "From my point of view, I don't see any chance of that happening." Williams said Woods had no plans to change his key personnel, though he has struggled to regain form after taking a break from the PGA Tour amid revelations of marital infidelities.

"People speculate. He's not



Tiger Woods, right, and caddie Steve Williams stand under an umbrella during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press

playing well and his results aren't what we're used to," Williams said in the radio interview. "Tiger and I are very good friends and we've been through a tough time, there's no question about that. "I'm fully supportive of the guy and he's been great through this whole situation

with me." Williams expressed confidence in the ability of Woods' new swing coach Sean Foley to revive his game. "He hasn't decided if that's the coach who's going to be with him, but I really like what this new guy had to say and what his theories are," Williams said. □

Jason Castro, allowing Wright to score and give the Mets a 2-1 lead.

Francoeur added an insurance run with an RBI triple off the left-center fence.

Pirates 7, Marlins 1

At Pittsburgh, James McDonald pitched seven sharp innings and Garrett Jones and Pedro Alvarez both drove in three runs as Pittsburgh ended a seven-game losing streak.

Making his third start with the Pirates since being acquired from the Dodgers in a deadline day trade, McDonald (2-2) pitched more than six innings for the first time in his career. He gave up a run and three hits, striking out six and walking two in improving to 2-1 with Pittsburgh.

Andrew McCutchen hit his 10th home run for Pittsburgh. Dan Uggla went 3 for 4 with an RBI for the Marlins.

Chris Volstad (6-9) gave up five runs, five hits and two walks in five-plus innings.

Padres 9, Cubs 5

At Chicago, Kevin Correia pitched six scoreless innings and hit an RBI double to lead San Diego over the Cubs.

Miguel Tejada was 4 for 5 with a double and two RBIs and Chris Denorfia added three hits for the NL West-leading Padres, who have won seven of eight. They moved four games ahead of second-place San Francisco.

Correia (10-7) allowed five hits and struck out five with one walk. After giving up four hits in the first two innings, he settled down to retire his last eight batters and became the fourth Padres starting pitcher to win at least 10 games this season.

In other NL games it was Pittsburgh 7, Florida 1; Atlanta 4, L.A. Dodgers 3; N.Y. Mets 3, Houston 1; and San Diego 9, Chicago Cubs 5. □

Starbucks conducts community event

Baristas venture out in protection of the environment



ORANJESTAD – True to its philosophy, Starbucks serves more than just coffee. Since opening last year at the Renaissance Marketplace the Starbucks store has been a popular meeting place, a welcoming business setting, a spot to nurture friendships and enjoy relationship over terrific coffees and delectable snacks. As a matter of fact, Starbucks is an engaged and

engaging member of the island's business landscape, encouraging and supporting partners – its employees and customers – to get involved in their communities. While the corporation upholds a global community service program -- teaching and following guidelines for waste reduction, recycling, energy & water conservation

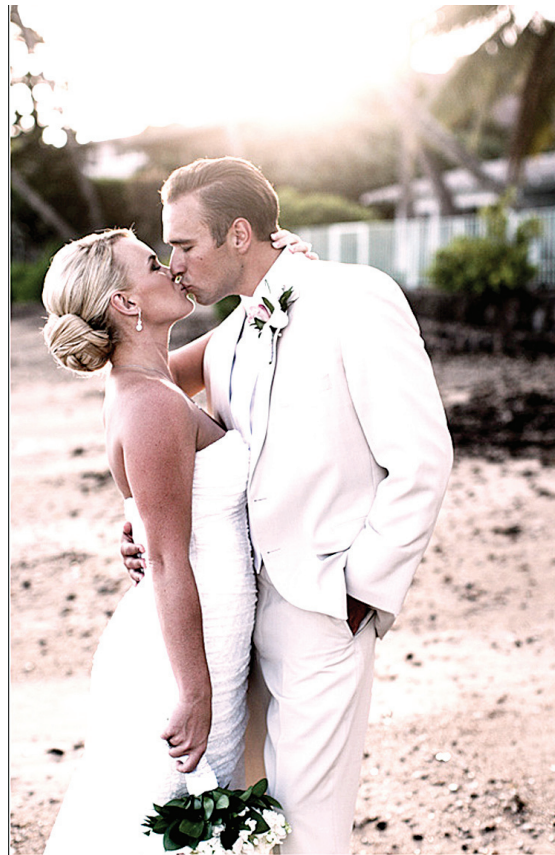
– it believes that being involved in the community is not only the right thing to do, it's also good business. The individual Starbucks stores Think Globally and Act Locally, often coming together to make the world a better place. In that spirit, the crew of the new Starbucks store, about to open at the Renaissance Mall on August 20th, joined hands

on Saturday, to clean up the beach area from Renaissance Beach to Havana, in an effort to provide the island with an extra helping hand. Pictured here, the crew heading out on its important mission. Director Business Development Starbucks Coffee International Mike Schieffer, headquartered in Miami, will be on island to assist with the opening festivities. Schieffer praised the high level of cooperation Starbucks Coffee International finds in Aruba and reports that the partnership with Renaissance

Aruba Resort serves as the new business model for Starbucks Coffee International in Latin and South America, where the company seeks to partner with top business concerns for the joint development of branded new outlets. With Starbucks coffee corporate training program concluded the new Baristas studied about customer care in relation to coffee, and are prepared to deliver a full assortment of signature coffees, pastries, cookies, light sandwiches and tasty bites, beside home coffee making equipment and accessories. □



Michelle Stephanie Witterveen and Britton Collins Kreitz are wed



OAHU, Hawaii – Michelle & Britton welcomed many guests to their fantastic destination wedding in Hawaii, on the island of Oahu, August 7th. Parents of the bride Koen Witterveen and Debra Rijk Van Kesteren Witteveen, with roots in the Netherlands, Aruba and Curacao, now residing in Hawaii, and parents of the groom Kevin & Kelly Jo Kreitz, from Bethlehem Pennsylvania, invited international and local friends and family members to attend the festivities which included a Bachelorette Party and a Bridal Shower, at the residence of Debra Rijk Van Kesteren Witteveen, a rehearsal dinner, at the Outrigger Canoe Club, a gorgeous sunset wedding at Kathy Ireland's estate, the Oasis Oceanfront Resort in Honolulu, a sumptuous post-nuptial brunch, again at the residence of Debra Rijk Van Kesteren Witteveen, a catamaran sailing trip and a fun island tour conducted by Debra's long-time companion, Health Talk radio show moderator, Hesh Goldstein, with Michael Witterveen, the bride's brother who was born in Aruba, joining the fun! Michelle & Britton will be living in Hawaii, where Britton is stationed with the US military, having served his country as an officer, in Iraq, last year. □



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For Local Law Enforcement Officials

US FBI Provides Crisis Negotiating Training for N.A. & Aruba



CURACAO - Three have provided a five-day U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) instructors crisis negotiation training for law enforcement personnel



from the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba (NA&A) August 9-13, 2010 at the Curacao Breezes Hotel.

The training was presented under the invitation of Curacao Police Commissioner Carlos Casseres who contacted the FBI Legal Attaché's office in Bridgetown, Barbados with the request to provide training. The training consisted of classes, case studies, equipment proficiency, scenario based training, negotiation tactics, and was used to provide updates on the latest developments in the field.

The Crisis Negotiations Units in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba are responsible for responding to incidents that require officers trained in crisis intervention and negotiation techniques. Officers from all NA&A police organizations, Royal Dutch Marechaussee, Special Taskforce NA&A (RST), Public Prosecutor's Office, Customs NA, Bon Futuro Prison, and the Control and Security Services (SKS)

participated in the training. The training was an excellent opportunity to strengthen the strong relationship between the FBI and the various law enforcement authorities on the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. □



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Radisson hosts prominent British journalists



PALM BEACH – A group of British press members recently visited the island, invited by the Aruba Tourism Authority to see and experience all that the island has to offer. During their stay the group of journalists gave a unanimous thumbs up after having enjoyed breakfast at Sunset Grille Restaurant. The group, including representatives from The Sun newspaper and Okay Magazine, was joined by Radisson's Senior Sales

Manager Lily Polsbroek. The Sunset Grille Restaurant, Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa now serves an extensive breakfast buffet every day, from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. On Sundays, the restaurant's Breakfast Buffet is available from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at which time the display is expanded and enriched to serve an unforgettable Sunday Champagne Brunch, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunset Grille has just released

a delicious new brunch menu, in which the culinary brigade came up with an interesting concept combining buffet served specialties, and a la minute cooking from the exhibition kitchen. Patrons will find an assortment of freshly baked breakfast pastries and breads, hot and cold cereals, tropical fresh fruits and fruit yogurts, a display of iced shrimp, smoked salmon with cream cheese, imported cheeses and charcuterie, composed salads, Clam Chowder, fluffy scrambled eggs, eggs benedict with Hollandaise sauce, breakfast meats, link sausage, bacon, Caribbean breakfast potatoes, pancakes, and French toast topped with creamy butter and maple syrup nicely laid out on the attractive buffet. Having sampled all appetizers patrons are invited to visit the exhibition kitchen of the Sunset Grille and ask the breakfast-chef for omelets made to order, including



favorite fillings, or choose any, or all tasty main courses, such as Beef Tenderloin & Garlic Shrimp served with roasted sweet potato and asparagus, Pork Wellington in puff pastry with duxelle of wild mushrooms, and whole grain mustard sauce, Macadamia Crusted Grouper with tropical fruit relish, Chicken Drumette with BBQ teriyaki & stir fried vegetables, Pasta with a variety of sauces, Bolognese, Marinara and Creamy

Escargots sauce, as well as freshly baked Pizzamozzarella, pepperoni or vegetarian. The sweet corner displays assorted cakes and pies, chocolate mousse, apple pie, cheese pie and local pastries. The Sunday Champagne Brunch serves bottomless flutes of Champagne and Mimosa and offers terrace seating overlooking the tropical garden or an indoor, elegant, air-conditioned dining room. □

The mussels at Papillon Restaurant are fabulous

Holland and Belgium mussels are still going strong!



PALM BEACH - The mussel season is going full tilt on Aruba; week after week the delicacy is sold out. That is because the mussels are extra-super tasty this year and mussel lovers almost swoon from the taste! The first mussel night at Papillon Restaurant caused a riot: they were sold out on

the first day. Not surprisingly, because the mussels were fleshier and tastier than ever. The mussels arrive on Aruba with the fresh, salty smell of one of Holland's and Belgium's best export products still clinging to them. July and August are the months when the mussels are cut,

mainly at 'de Zeeuwse kust'. Papillon's true mussel feast will hopefully last a long time. Papillon's chef Bas Kuurstra is preparing the mussels in two ways: the traditional and the local way. The classic, traditional way is with all the trimmings: boiled and steeped in French white wine with a garnish of fresh vegetables like finely cut onions, celery, parsley and black, freshly ground pepper and thyme. The traditional mussels are served with French bread, French fries and mayonnaise. The other way is the 'manera local': stewed in Aruba's locally brewed Balashi beer and served with funchi instead of French bread. Funchi is a local staple food. Mussels are fantastically healthy: they contain hardly any cholesterol at all, are



rich in vitamins and good fatty acids. The 'Zeeuwse Mosselen' are world famous: they are tasty and chewy. Every Thursday the mussels are delivered to Papillon straight from the airplane; you'd better make reservations fast as the

export amount is limited. Papillon Restaurant is located at The Village across from the Radisson Resort on the hi-rise strip. For reservations, please surf to www.papillonaruba.com or call 586-5400. □

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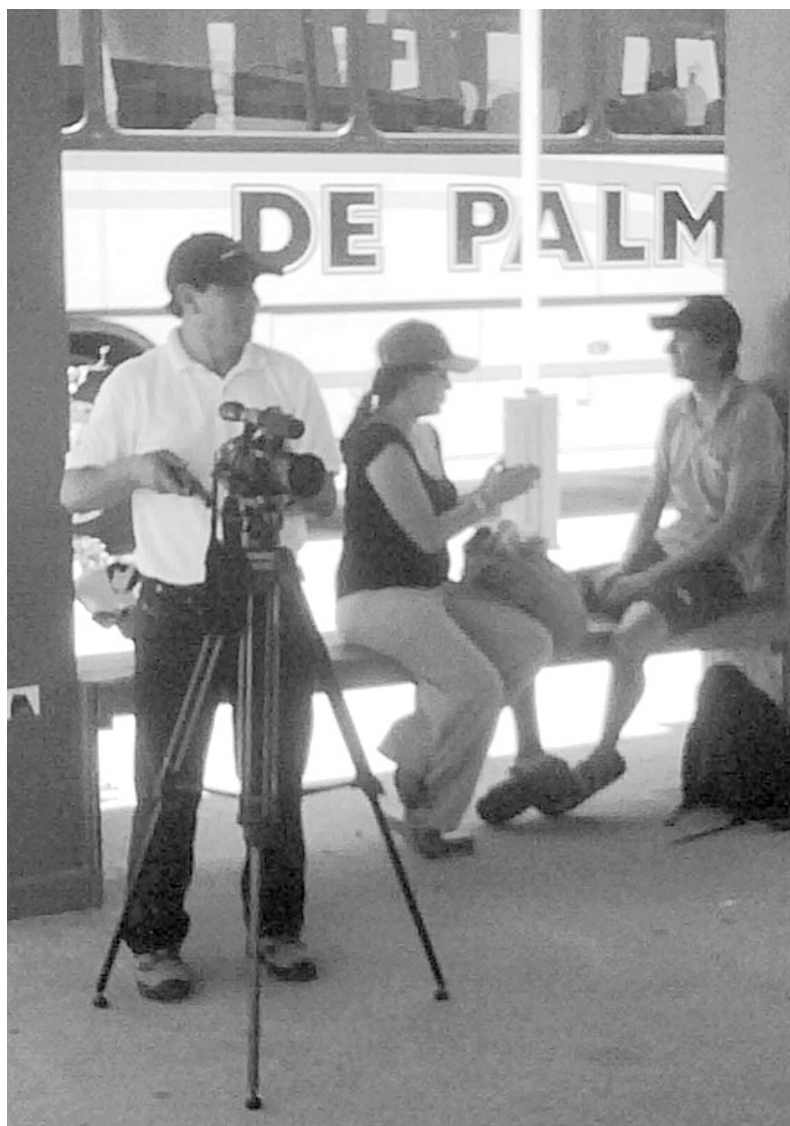
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Press from Ecuador visit Aruba



Recently representatives from the "Vistazo" and "Aboard" magazines and the "La Television" program, all from Ecuador, paid a visit to Aruba.

The Ecuadorian press members arrived in Aruba on a charter from Quito.

During their stay they covered every aspect of the island, including the tourist attractions, activities and restaurants.

They received a first-hand experience of all that Aruba has to offer.

The press members were very impressed with the level and quality of service that they received and said that they are sure that Aruba will be a destination that tourists from Ecuador would like to visit. □



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HUMAN HINTS

Powerful Prayer 2 - The Spoken Word

Yesterday, we discussed prayer to your Higher Power. We discussed the difference between self-defeating and self-empowering prayer. Today, we will explore the power of the spoken word, which is another form of prayer.

When you speak, you pray. You declare things about your life which the Universe then reflects back to you. Your words express your inner attitude, and guide your life. When you focus on what you're saying, you focus your power.

With verbal prayer, you declare a statement about your life, out loud, with confidence, as if it is fact. "I am a part of absolute abundance. I lack nothing." Say it and believe it. The vibrational energy of your voice changes the world in ways we cannot perceive. Your voice travels through space as waves of compressed air. Your voice is a physical manifestation of your expression.

Speaking is the easiest, most immediate form of physical manifestation. Become aware of what you say. Are your words, sentences and ideas

positive or negative? Do you speak in terms of lack or abundance? Become aware of your verbal expression. If it is self-defeating, switch to verbalizing self-empowering ideas. Instead of saying you can't, say, "I've done that already, so the second time will be a breeze". (Even if you've never done it.) We all know how easy it is to trick our selves, so use that to your advantage.

Changing your verbal expressions will help change your internal attitudes, which

will change your life.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School

of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you chose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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We need you! HELP save our donkeys

ORANJESTAD - Indeed, this is an appeal of the Donkey Sanctuary, which is in urgent need of volunteers. Due to our extended opening hours (daily from 9am to 4pm, during the weekends from 10 am until 3 pm) and the increase in the number of donkeys at our shelter, we are sorely in need of more volunteers. We take care of more than 100 donkeys, which are divided into three locations. And all of them need their feed, the grounds need to be cleaned and there are lots of other cores as well.

Our volunteers can often be found in booths and behind stands during different festivities and they receive visitors to the shelter. The number of visitors increases every year as well.

Every year we need to say goodbye to volunteers because they are leaving the island, because of work pressure or when they follow their husbands to Holland, (like the wives of the Dutch marines).

Interested volunteers can let us know for



which activities they wish to be scheduled and on which days, or part of the day, they can come and help us out. We have volunteers who come in on a daily basis, on a weekly basis or even those who come on a monthly basis. For us, everyone is more than welcome! We need them!

Are you interested in being actively involved in the guarding this part of Aruba's heritage, do you like working together with other volunteers, then please contact Desiree Eldering at 593-2933. The other volunteers as well as our lovely donkeys will be forever grateful! □

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slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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ORANJESTAD - Casa Tua Barcelona's Flamenco Show is the spot to be tonight with Angela Croes TONIGHT and then again on Friday.

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with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

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Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

MARRIOTT CARE FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTES TO SONRISA SUMMER CAMP



PALM BEACH, ARUBA – On July 30th, the Marriott Care Foundation welcomed special needs foundation, the Sonrisa group, for a fun-filled afternoon at the Aruba Marriott.

As a part of their annual summer camp program, eighty Sonrisa members enjoyed the afternoon with beach games and lunch on Palm Beach. Special beach games were organized by Gio Leocadia of Gamemasters. The Activities team of the Marriott Surf Club lent helping hands to make innovative balloon creations as well as a delicious lunch for the guests as part of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino's 15th anniversary

celebration. The Marriott Care Foundation was founded in 1999 by the associates of the Aruba Marriott and has been actively contributing to the local community for the past nine years. The foundation embodies a living and breathing sentiment and "Spirit to Serve" within associates who fund the Foundation through direct financial contributions. The Marriott Care Foundation supports local initiatives to better the community and reaches out to those in need, showing that together we can help create a healthier living environment for all.

Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms -- the most spacious on the island -- each with large, private balconies overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions. To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 888-PARADISE or visit www.arubamarriott.com. Connect with the Aruba Marriott's



official Facebook fan page by visiting www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott and follow on Twitter @ArubaMarriott.

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Charter associate Micheal Kelly – celebrating his 15th anniversary at the Aruba Marriott

Micheal Kelly - I have seen the transformation from the opening to now

Micheal Kelly started working with the Aruba Marriott in May 1995. When the hotel opened, only 413 rooms were completed. There was still a lot of work to do, and Micheal was one of the original associates that helped make the resort what is today.

Micheal is very proud to say that there is no corner of the Aruba Marriott that he does not know. He started as a carpenter

and is now the Engineering Supervisor. He was able to be a Task Force at the Curacao Marriott, where he assisted with the semi renovation brand standard.

Micheal likes the diversity of his job, enjoys his colleagues and engaging with the guests. He loves to work for the Marriott and recommends the company to everybody. "Marriott incredible benefits for employees and their families. I am a perfect example for how Marriott provides the opportunity for professional development.," says Kelly. □



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Sex Cancer

Many people might not equate cancer and sex together. We know that sex, through the transmission of the HIV virus can be life threatening, but there are more problems. Cancer is a medical condition where a malignant tumor or growth caused when cells multiply uncontrollably, destroys healthy tissue. There are different forms of cancers that take place in different parts of your body.

My mother Nora's sister died twenty-five years ago of cervical cancer. Aunt Lila's death angered me at the time because Lila was involved in propagating regular pelvic examinations that could detect early stages of cancer in the cervix for the Public Health Department in Venezuela. Unlike most cancers, cervical cancer can be prevented and if caught early enough can be successfully treated.

A test developed more than 60 years ago by Dr. George Papanicolaou; the Pap smear is now a standard gynecological screening test during a pelvic exam. A Pap smear is a test that will collect cells from the cervix, the lower, end of the uterus. Laboratory analysis of the sample is used to look for abnormalities that might suggest the presence of cervical cancer or infection and inflammation. The American Cancer Society recommends that women have their first Pap smear three years after first having sexual relations, or at age 21 if they have not been sexually active. Professionally, I suggest these tests begin earlier since most young women are sexually active by age sixteen.

The cause of almost all cases

of cervical cancer is a virus that is sexually transmitted. Unfortunately, the Pap test may not find abnormal cells until cancer already has developed. Luckily there is a test you can have along with your Pap smear to detect the virus that causes those abnormal cells called the human Papillomavirus test (HPV test).

HPV virus has become an epidemic. In healthy individuals the body's immune system fights the HPV virus before it causes problems. When infected with the HPV virus, changes take place in the body's cells that may develop into cervical cancer if not detected and treated early. Human papilloma virus is the cause of 99.7 percent of all cases of cervical cancer. Worse, cancer that develops from HPV is not limited to the cervix and if the virus infiltrates the lymph gland system, the cancer-producing virus can travel to any part of the body. Predictably, a woman infected with HPV will contract cancer in her lifetime and will probably eventually die from cancer.

HPV infection is spread by direct skin-to-skin contact with infected body fluids during vaginal, oral, or anal sex. After exposure, warts may begin to appear within several weeks; or they may take months or even years to appear; or they never appear at all. HPV infected men or women who do not appear to have symptoms are as contagious as persons who have visible warts. However, not everyone who has been

exposed to the virus will be infected.

Cancer has countless secondary causes, but the basic cause, not enough oxygen in your cells. The HPV virus converts cells from using oxygen to an anaerobic, no oxygen metabolism. Viruses are anaerobic - they cannot exist in a healthy elevated oxygen environment, Influenza, Herpes, Warts, Measles, Canker (Cold) Sores and HPV are all anaerobic. They exist and grow with little or no oxygen present. Increase cellular oxygen levels and these anaerobic diseases cannot replicate and cannot exist. Lack of oxygen in the tissues, because of constant or chronic inflammation is the basic cause for all degenerative disease. Lack of oxygen in the tissues is a result of a body that is too acidic and is under continuous stress. The wrong foods for your metabolic type, modern over-processed convenience foods, pesticides, toxic heavy metals, and lack of mineral water can all affect your immune system by making your body more acidic. At Viana Natural Healing Center we evaluate health risks and recommend a personal health program to lessen inflammation and strengthen the immune system. This is important for preventative health, but instrumental in supporting the body under any type of stress. Although there has been a lot of press coverage about HPV vaccine, this is not the answer. The vaccine, which has been responsible for several deaths

worldwide, hopes to protect young women from four different types of HPV virus. So far medical researchers have identified eighteen different HPV types. This is false security.

Once sexually active, a regular pelvic examination with a Pap smear to screen for HPV is key to a sexually active woman's health. Instrumental for your vaginal and cervical health is to start and continue insisting that a condom be used every time you engage in sex. This not only helps protect from HPV, but healthier for both partners than all alternatives except total abstinence, which may be unrealistic for most of today's youth. Conditions such as vaginitis and yeast infection usually produce symptoms, while cervical dysplasia or cancers often do not. Gynecological examinations may be used to view the cervix or obtain biopsy tissue and freezing therapy may be used to remove abnormal cervical tissue, but nothing will cure you from the HPV virus.

Get The Point! The bad news is that too many women are still getting cervical cancer and are still dying. This, however, can change for the better if woman and men insist that their sexual partners use condoms. We need to realize that a woman infected with HPV can give another woman, through sexual contact the virus and infected men, who usually do not show symptoms can infect countless women. To protect our health we need to learn more about the health consequences of sexual contact and realize that by being careful it does not mean



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

that you trust your partner any less. Call for an appointment. Let us teach you how to keep cancer and other diseases out of your love life.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio (The Barefoot Doctor) & TV show ("Salud, Vitalidad y Dinamismo" presenta pa Dr. Viana tur Diaranson na ATV 15 durante Noticia Awenochi) writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, (Monday's: Noord, Bubali 11M) TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www.vianaheal.com

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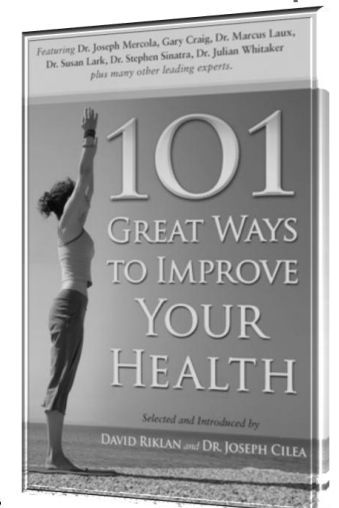
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Study: 1 in 5 US teenagers has slight hearing loss

By CARLA K. JOHNSON,
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO — A stunning number of teens have lost a little bit of their hearing — nearly one in five — and the problem has increased substantially in recent years, a new national study has found. Some experts are urging teenagers to turn down the volume on their digital music players, suggesting loud music through earbuds may be to blame — although hard evidence is lacking. They warn that slight hearing loss can cause problems in school and set the stage for hearing aids in later life.

“Our hope is we can encourage people to be careful,” said the study’s senior author Dr. Gary Curhan of Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

The researchers analyzed data on 12- to 19-year-olds from a nationwide health survey. They compared hearing loss in nearly 3,000 kids tested from 1988-94 to nearly 1,800 kids tested over 2005-06.

The prevalence of hearing loss increased from about 15 percent to 19.5 percent.

Most of the hearing loss was “slight,” defined as inability to hear at 16 to 24 decibels — or sounds such as a whisper or rustling leaves. A teenager with slight hearing loss might not be able to hear water dripping or his mother whispering “good night.”

Extrapolating to the nation’s teens, that would mean about 6.5 million with at least slight hearing loss.

Those with slight hearing loss “will hear all of the vowel sounds clearly, but might miss some of the consonant sounds” such as t, k and s, Curhan said.

“Although speech will be detectable, it might not be fully intelligible,” he said.

While the researchers didn’t

single out iPods or any other device for blame, they found a significant increase in high-frequency hearing loss, which they said may indicate that noise caused the problems. And they cited a 2010 Australian study that linked use of personal listening devices with a 70 percent increased risk of hearing loss in children.

“I think the evidence is out there that prolonged exposure to loud noise is likely to be harmful to hearing, but that doesn’t mean kids can’t listen to MP3 players,” Curhan said. The study is based on data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey conducted by a branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The findings appear in Wednesday’s Journal of the American Medical Association.

Loud music isn’t new, of course. Each new generation of teenagers has found a new technology to blast music — from the bulky headphones of the 1960s to the handheld Sony Walkmans of the 1980s. Today’s young people are listening longer, more than twice as long as previous generations, said Brian Fligor, an audiologist at Children’s Hospital Boston. The older technologies had limited battery life and limited music storage, he said.

Apple iPod users can set their own volume limits. Parents can use the feature to set a maximum volume on their child’s iPod and lock it with a code.

One of Fligor’s patients, 17-year-old Matthew Brady of Foxborough, Mass., recently was diagnosed with mild hearing loss. He has trouble hearing his friends in the school cafeteria. He ends up faking comprehension.

“I laugh when they laugh,” he said.

Fligor believes Brady’s muffled hearing was caused by listening to an iPod turned up too loud and for too long. After his mother had a heart attack, Brady’s pediatrician had advised him to exercise for his own health. So he cranked up the volume on his favorites—John Mellencamp, Daughtry, Bon Jovi and U2 — while walking on a treadmill at least four days a week for 30-minute stretches.

One day last summer, he got off the treadmill and found he couldn’t hear anything with his left ear. His hearing gradually returned, but was never the same.

Some young people turn their digital players up to levels that would exceed federal workplace exposure limits, said Fligor. In Fligor’s own study of about 200 New York college students, more than half listened to music at 85 decibels or louder. That’s about as loud as a hair dryer or a vacuum cleaner.

Habitual listening at those levels can turn microscopic hair cells in the inner ear into scar tissue, Fligor said. Some people may be more



In this Aug. 13, 2010 photo, Matthew Brady, 17, of Foxborough, Mass., poses for a portrait in his home while wearing ear phones and displaying an iPod, Friday. Brady, who has some mild hearing loss, used to listen to the device while running on a treadmill with the volume turned up. A stunning number of teens have lost a little bit of their hearing — nearly one in five — and the problem has increased substantially in recent years, a new national study has found.

(AP Photo/Steven Senne)

predisposed to damage than others; Fligor believes Brady is one of them.

These days, Brady still listens to his digital player, but at

lower volumes.

“Do not blare your iPod,” he said. “It’s only going to hurt your hearing. I learned this the hard way.” □

Scientists: Link between ALS, head injuries

BOSTON — Scientists funded in part by the NFL say they have found evidence connecting head injuries in athletes to a condition that mimics Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Dr. Ann McKee said she found toxic proteins in the spinal cords of three athletes who had suffered head injuries and were later diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease, or ALS. Those same proteins have been found in the brains of athletes with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a disease linked to head injuries that causes cognitive decline, abnormal behavior and dementia.

The findings, announced Tuesday, are to be published in September’s issue of the Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology.

McKee is a neurology professor at Boston University who has studied CTE in athletes. She also is director of neuropathology for the

Department of Veterans Affairs at the Bedford VA Medical Center, where research has been conducted on the brains and spinal cords of 12 athletes donated by family members.

McKee noticed that an unusually high number of football players seemed to be affected by ALS. The disease attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, and destroys the ability to move and speak.

She studied the brains and spinal cords of ex-Minnesota Vikings linebacker Wally Hilgenberg, former Southern California linebacker Eric Scoggins, and a boxer whose family asked that his name be kept private. She found the toxic proteins in the spines of all three.

The proteins were not present in the spines of athletes with CTE who didn’t have Lou Gehrig’s disease. Nor had she seen them in non-athletes who died of ALS. □

Mind-Controlling Parasites Date Back Millions of Years

Mind control by parasite sounds like the stuff of science fiction, but not only have scientists revealed that it is real across a range of animals - including perhaps humans - they now even have fossil evidence suggesting it has taken place for millions of years.

An unnerving variety of parasites have evolved the ability to control the brains of victims to help the parasites spread. For instance, the protozoan known as *Toxoplasma gondii* makes rats love cat urine so that it can spread among its feline hosts - and it may influence human culture as well, making people more prone to certain forms of neuroticism.

Another case of parasite mind control involves the fungus *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis*, which essentially turns ants into zombies. It maneuvers the insects into biting down on the major veins of the undersides of leaves just before they die - the fungus then rapidly grows a stalk from their victims' heads, releasing spores to infect more ants.

Now scientists have discovered what might be ancient evidence of such mind-control-induced death grips - scars on a roughly 48-million-year-old leaf.

"I thought it was a very, very long shot to find such a fossil, but indeed, as luck would have it, two paleobotanists, Conrad Labandeira at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and Torsten Wappler at the Steinmann Institute in Bonn, were sitting around wondering how that particular damage type might be explained," said researcher David Hughes, a behavioral ecologist at Harvard University.

The leaf fossil came from what once were subtropical forests around a lake in Germany. The leaf bears 29 dumbbell-shaped scars centered around its veins. These differ from the kinds of snips resulting when insects drink plant sap, and match telltale scars made nowadays by the death grips of carpenter ants (*Camponotus leonardi*) infected with the mind-controlling fungus *O. unilateralis*. "We are now realizing that half of life on Earth is parasitic -- each free-living organism has at least one parasite," Hughes said. □

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China getting one step closer to officially overtake Japan as the world's second-largest economy, underlining its growing global clout but also highlighting the need for a profound structural overhaul.

China becomes world's second-largest economy but it's far from being a leader

It has taken China only 30 years since it embraced capitalism to create the second largest economy, beating out Japan and positioning itself to surpass the US over the next two decades. The world should take care, however, in noting this achievement. China has yet to display a similar growth as a respected, responsible partner in either Asian or global affairs.

Its neighbors, from South Korea to Vietnam to India, have recently become anxious as China wields its new-found strength with reckless impatience, claiming territory, controlling markets, and expanding its Navy in provocative ways. It even defied much of the world in not condemning North Korea's recent sinking of a South Korean warship.

The response by many Asian nations has been a renewed embrace of the region's longtime protector, the United States.

That embrace, however, is not just because the US is a geopolitical power with a Navy and an economy that can counter China's expansion. No, fundamentally it is because the US still displays values and leadership that far surpass those of China in attracting allies.

The new regional concerns about China confront the US with a dilemma: How much should it contain China in areas that appear threatening while also trying to engage it as a potential strategic partner?

That requires a tricky balance. Containment worked during the cold war to bring down the Soviet Union because the communist system collapsed under its own contradictions. US containment of China also helped force it to abandon a communist-oriented economy in 1979, but not its authoritarian rule.

Since the end of the cold war in 1991, the US

has more often than not tried to engage China, most notably in letting it enter the World Trade Organization and in seeking its help on crises such as the nuclear ambitions of Iran and North Korea. But President Obama has begun to shift toward containing China, forcing the question of how far the US should go.

Washington has recently beefed up its military ties with Taiwan, Vietnam, and Indonesia, while threatening to conduct a massive sea exercise with South Korea near China's coast on the Yellow Sea. Mr. Obama has asked Congress to approve a free-trade pact with South Korea, while seeking other such bilateral agreements in Asia that can measure up to similar pacts already won by China.

Most notably, the US stood shoulder to shoulder with many Southeast Asian nations last month. Washington told Beijing that its recent claims to many small islands in the South China Sea are essentially bogus and that it needs to resolve those claims peacefully with all the other nations around that sea.

This was a direct challenge to China's presumed dominance of Asia. The US laid down a marker that it wants to remain the dominant power while also building up more alliances with other Asian nations to counter China.

That is not a light commitment by Obama. He must make sure the US military maintains a strong presence in Asia. He must stand up to Congress in winning approval of free-trade agreements. And he must encourage Asian nations to beef up their militaries to support the US in a regional defense.

On economic issues, the US is still engaging China, such as asking it to stop manipulating its currency in order to favor its exports. Here

again, the US is standing up for the value of free markets, a value that China honors more for its self-interest than it does for other nations.

China's lack of regard for the effects of its currency manipulation is straining Obama's patience as he tries to revive the US economy. Congress certainly is becoming less patient as it moves closer to hindering imports of Chinese goods.

In making such moves, the US must remember that it stands for values such as liberty and openness which have enabled it to be a superpower. As China climbs toward becoming a superpower, it won't get too far unless it adopts those values.

Last year, Lee Kuan Yew, the former leader of Singapore, warned that "US core interest requires that it remains the superior power on the Pacific."

Aruba TODAY

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Irán dice que no enviará mujer condenada por adulterio a Brasil

TEHERAN (Reuters) - El presidente iraní, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, dijo que una mujer condenada por adulterio a ser apedreada hasta morir no será enviada a Brasil, a pesar de la oferta del mandatario Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva de darle asilo.

La sentencia impuesta sobre Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani por una relación extramarital ha causado indignación internacional y se ha convertido en un sorpresivo tema en la campaña para las elecciones presidenciales de octubre en Brasil.

Lula, que tiene buenas relaciones con Ahmadinejad, ofreció asilo a la mujer previamente este mes. La propuesta fue rechazada por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, cuyo portavoz dijo que al líder brasileño



Foto de archivo del presidente iraní, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. REUTERS/Morteza Nikoubazl

no se le había “suministrado suficiente información” sobre el tema.

En una entrevista con el canal estatal iraní de habla inglesa Press TV, el presidente iraní

declaró: “Creo que no hay necesidad de crear algún problema al presidente Lula al llevarla a Brasil”.

“Queremos exportar nuestra

tecnología a Brasil en lugar de un tema de esta naturaleza”, agregó. La entrevista fue televisada el lunes por la noche con una traducción en off al inglés. “Al final hay un juez y

los jueces son independientes. Pero hablé con el jefe de la Justicia y la Justicia tampoco está de acuerdo con algo así”, señaló.

Sin embargo, Marco Aurélio García, el máximo asesor de Lula en política exterior, dijo que Brasil podría volver a intentar salvar a la mujer iraní y afirmó que el Gobierno su país trataba el caso como un “asunto político”.

“Si no creyéramos que esto ayudaría, no insistiríamos”, agregó García.

Otra fuente gubernamental brasileña, que pidió no ser identificada, expresó dudas sobre el éxito de los esfuerzos de la nación sudamericana.

De acuerdo a la ley islámica (sharia), los delitos como asesinato, adulterio, violación, robo armado, apostasía y tráfico de armas son castigados con la pena de muerte. □

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